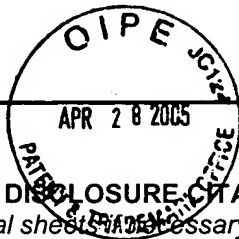
[illegible][illegible]

1	"Simple Fusion Splicing Technique For Reducing Splicing Loss Between Standard Singlemode Fibres And Erbium-Doped Fibre," Electronic Letters, August 15, 1991 Vol 27, No. 17	
2	"Erbium-Doped Fiber Splicing and Splice Loss Estimation," IEEE Journal of Lightwave Technology, Vol 12, No. 3, March 3, 1994	

**Date Considered**

**EXAMINER:** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number (Optional) <b>V8998-6</b>	Application Number <b>10/717856</b>
	Applicant(s) <b>E. Mies et, al.</b>	
	Filing Date <b>11/19/2003</b>	Group Art Unit <b>1731</b>

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							Yes	No

**OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

	<b>3</b>	<b>"Thermally-Diffused Expanded Core Fibres For Low-Loss And Inexpensive Photonic Components," Electronic Letters, October 10, 1991, Vol. 27, No. 21</b>	
	<b>4</b>	<b>"Low-Loss Optical Connector Between Dissimilar Single-Mode Fibers using Local Core Expansion Technique by Thermal Diffusion," IEEE Photonics Technology Letters, Vol. 4, No. 9, September 1992</b>	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

Form PTO-A820 (also form PTO-1449)



Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date of Submission: February 14, 2005  
Method of Submission: 37 C.F.R. § 1.8  
U.S. Appl. No.: 10/717,856  
Atty Docket No.: V8998-6

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